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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/796,517	03/08/2004	Frank Lin	14283 B	1923
23595	7590	03/20/2006	EXAMINER	
NIKOLAI & MERSEREAU, P.A. 900 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH SUITE 820 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			BUI, HUNG S	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2841		

DATE MAILED: 03/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

5/1

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/796,517	LIN, FRANK	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Hung S. Bui	2841	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13/20/2005.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-6 and 8-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-6 and 8-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 12/30/2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-2, 4-6 and 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ming-Hui et al. [US 6,849,801] in view of Schremmer [US 6,104,617].

Regarding claim 1, Ming-Hui et al. disclose an electronic card (1, figure 1), comprising:

- two shells (6, 7) juxtaposed to each other;
- a frame (2) mounted between the two shells, wherein each of the two shells has a first end and a second end, with the second end of each of the shells formed with two ears extending therefrom and defining a passage therethrough (figure 1);
- the frame has a first end and a second end, and two sides each formed with a locking groove (27) and each of the two shells has two sides each formed with a locking hook detachably locked in the respective locking groove of the frame (figure 10);
- a circuit board (4) having a first end and a second end, mounted between the two shells and rested on the frame (figure 1);

- a terminal seat mounted on the first end of the frame and secured on the first end of the circuit board (figure 1);
- an extension mounted on the second end of the frame and rested on the second end of the circuit board, wherein the extension includes a first casing mounted on the second end of the frame and a second casing removably mounted on the first casing (figure 1).

Ming-Hui et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for each of the first and second casings having two hooks looking with two correspondingly ears on the two shells respectively, so that the circuit board is received in the extension between the first casing and the second casing.

Schremmer discloses an extended PC card (figures 1 and 12), having a first shell (43) including at least two ears (38', 44') and a first extension cover (26) including at least two hooks (28', 34'), wherein the first shell connected with the extension cover through the hooks and the corresponding ears (figure 12). Schremmer further discloses a printed circuit board being mounted within two shells and two extension covers (figure 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the cover design that is connected between the shell and the extension cover of Schremmer for the shell and the extension cover of Ming-Hui et al., for the purpose of facilitating assembly of the circuit card.

Regarding claim 2, Ming-Hui et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for each of the two shells has a bent edge formed at the first end of each of the two shells and rested on the terminal seat.

Schremmer discloses each of the two shells having a bent edge (figures 1 and 2b) formed at the first end of each of the two shells and rested on the terminal seat (90).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the bent edge portion design of Schremmer with the shells of Ming-Hui et al., in order to prevent the fragility of the terminal seat of the frame.

Regarding claim 4, Ming-Hui et al. further disclose the frame having a first end with two sides, each formed with a positioning recess, and each of the two shells has a first end having two sides each formed with a positioning hook detachably locked in the respective positioning recess of the frame (figures 1 and 3).

Regarding claim 5, Ming-Hui et al. disclose the positioning hook of each of the two shells is substantially L-shaped (figure 1).

Regarding claim 6, Ming-Hui et al. disclose each of the two sides of the first end of each of the two shells being formed with an inclined edge located adjacent to the positioning hook, and each of the two sides of the first end of the frame is formed with two press faces each urged on the respective inclined edge of each of the two shells (figure 1).

Regarding claim 8, Ming-Hui et al. disclose the first end of the frame being formed with an insertion recess, and the terminal seat is inserted into the insertion recess of the frame (figure 1).

Regarding claim 9, Ming-Hui et al. disclose the locking hook of each of the two shells being formed of a substantially L-shaped (figure 1).

Regarding claim 10, Ming-Hui et al. disclose the locking groove of each of the two sides of the frame is formed with two spaced elongated catch ribs for retaining the respective locking hook of each of the two shells (figure 1).

Regarding claim 11, Ming-Hui et al. disclose each of the two shells having a symmetric structure (figure 1).

3. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ming-Hui et al., as modified, as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Yeh et al. [US 6,004,144].

Regarding claim 3, Ming-Hui et al., as modified, disclose the instant claimed invention except for the terminal seat has two sides each formed with an oblique insertion channel, and the bent edge of each of the two shells is inserted into the respective oblique insertion channel of the terminal seat.

Yeh et al. disclose an electronic circuit card (figure 1) having a terminal seat (123) including two sides, each formed with an oblique insertion channel (figure 5), and the bent edge of each of the two shells is inserted into the respective insertion channel of the terminal seat (figure 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the terminal seat design of Yeh et al., for the terminal seat of Ming-Hui et al., as modified, for the purpose of securing the terminal seat in the shells.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-6, 8-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

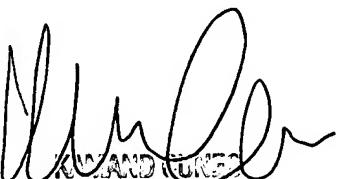
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung S. Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-2102. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on (571) 272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

3/16/06
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